WORLD / A22

Opposition leader is new Thai prime minister

BUSINESS / B1

10-month OFW inflows rise 15.5% to P14B

WORLD / A21

Big crowds in churches as bad times hit US

LIFESTYLE / C1

Oprah Winfrey: I now weigh 200 pounds

Rich, poor Americans flocking to pawnshops

BEVERLY HILLS, CALIFORNIA—Whether it's a Tiffany diamond or a 3-year-old lawnmower, more and more Americans from all social classes are pawning their possessions to make ends meet.

Pawnshop owners see strong business across the country, even in unexpected lo-

RICH, POOR A4

PHILIPPINE DAILY
INQUIRER
BALANCED NEWS, FEARLESS VIEWS

Tuesday, December 16, 2008 ★★ 7 sections / Vol. 24 / No. 9 P18 online: www.inquirer.net

Boat capsizes off Cagayan; 23 people die

By Villamor Visaya Jr. and Estanislao Caldez in Tuguegarao and Jocelyn R. Uy in Manila

THE SMALL MOTOR BOAT MAEJAN was obviously overcrowded, mostly with passengers out to do their Christmas shopping, when it sailed on Sunday night from the island town of Calayan to Aparri in Cagayan.

The boat never got to its destination.

Strong waves and currents broke the Maejan's bamboo outrigger and the 28-

BOAT A6



BUSHWHACKED In this series of images from APTN video, an Iraqi journalist hurls two shoes at US President George W. Bush during a news conference on Sunday in Baghdad, Iraq. He misses his target. AP

'BUSHOED' IN BAGHDAD

'A farewell kiss, you dog'

BAGHDAD—IT GIVES fresh meaning to the phrase shooed away.

Yelling "This is a farewell kiss, you dog" in Arabic, an Iraqi reporter hurled his shoes—one shoe after the other—at the head of US President George Bush on Sunday, sullying Bush's farewell visit to Baghdad meant to mark greater security in Iraq after years of bloodshed.

Bush ducked the shoes thrown in the middle of a news conference with Iraqi Prime Minister Nouri al-Maliki.

Both shoes narrowly missed their target and thumped loudly against the wall behind the leaders.

In Iraqi culture, throwing shoes at someone is a sign of contempt.

The shoe attack came as Bush and al-Maliki were about to shake hands. The assailant—identified as television correspondent Muntadar al-Zeidi—leaped from his chair and hurled his footwear at

A FAREWELL A11



ON AN IRAQ trip shrouded in secrecy and marred by dissent, President George W. Bush (background left) on Sunday hails progress in the war defining his presidency and gets a size-10 reminder of his unpopularity when Iraqi journalist Muntadar al-Zeidi (center) throws two shoes at him during a news conference. Later, Bush (inset) winks, shrugging off the shoe attack. AP

7 share ₱180-M SuperLotto jackpot

By Nancy C. Carvajal

SEVEN PEOPLE WHO PLACED their bets at different outlets in Luzon will be sharing the ₱180.3-million 6/49 SuperLotto pot, the Philippine Charity Sweepstakes Office (PCSO) said yesterday.

Two of them have already claimed their share (₱25.7 million each).

PCSO spokesperson Larry Cedro said a retired policeman from San Juan and an unmarried teacher in Quezon City claimed their prizes yesterday.

The five other winners have yet to show up at the PCSO office in Quezon City.

7 SHARE A10

Arabs hail shoe attacker as hero

BAGHDAD—THOUSANDS OF Iraqis took to the streets Monday to demand the release of a reporter who threw his shoes at President George W. Bush, as Arabs across many parts of the Middle East hailed the journalist as a hero and praised his insult as a proper send-off to the unpopular US president.

ARABS HAIL A11

Major banks lose billions to 'mad' trader

NEW YORK—FROM A JEWISH youth charity in Boston to major banks as far afield as Zurich, the list of investors who say they were duped in one of Wall Street's biggest Ponzi schemes is growing.

In the scheme, money provided by new investors is used to pay seemingly high returns to early stage investors. The scheme collapses when required redemptions exceed new investments.

Around the world, investors who sank cash into veteran Wall Street money manager Bernard Madoff's investment pool spent the weekend calculating how much exposure they might have.

The 70-year-old Madoff, well respected in the invest-

MADOFF A11

Church bats for livelier dawn Masses

By Dona Pazzibugan

ROUSE GOD'S SLEEPY FLOCK through lively sermons and inspired singing.

The Archdiocese of Manila has issued this reminder to parish priests and lay groups as Filipino Catholics rise early this morning for the Yuletide custom of Simbang Gabi.

The series of nine predawn Masses starts today and culminates in the Misa de Gallo (literally, Spanish for Rooster's Mass) on Christmas Eve. The practice started centuries ago during the Spanish colonial period.

CHURCH A10

Tañamor bags gold in Moscow World Cup



TAÑAMOR: Redemption for Filipino boxer who let his nation down at the Beijing Olympics.

HARRY TAÑAMOR, A FLOP IN the Athens and Beijing Olympics, redeemed himself on Sunday by nailing the light flyweight gold medal in the Boxing World Cup at the Megasport in Moscow, Russia.

The 31-year-old Tañamor outduelled Cuban favorite Yampier Hernandez, 15-7, in the finals to join the roster of winners in the inaugural edition of the event organized by International Amateur Boxing Association (AIBA) for the world's top eight fighters in their respective divisions.

A longtime member of the national team from the Philippine Army, Tañamor counterpunched his way to victory, keeping the rangy Cuban at bay with his longer reach and smooth footwork.

The victory was worth $10,000 for the Zamboanga

TAÑAMOR A18

Manny's Las Vegas-style birthday bash

By Aquiles Zonio
Inquirer Mindanao

GENERAL SANTOS CITY—IT may be the most spectacular birthday bash, Las Vegas-style, that this city, perhaps even the whole of Mindanao, will witness tomorrow when its world-famous and most favorite son, boxing hero Manny Pacquiao, turns 30 years old.

President Macapagal-Arroyo, three world-class boxers from Mexico and Venezuela, and

MANNY'S A6





PABILLO joins farmers' hunger strike at the Batasan on Monday.

FIGHT FOR CARP

Bishops join farmers' hunger strike

By Leila B. Salaverria and Nikko Dizon

CATHOLIC BISHOPS AND RELIGIOUS leaders yesterday joined a hunger strike to press demands for lawmakers to extend the Comprehensive Agrarian Reform Program (CARP), which expires at the end of the year.

Manila Auxiliary Bishop Broderick Pabillo and Fr. Archie Casey of the Association of Major Religious Superiors were the latest to join the fast started by eight farmers at the Department of Agrarian Reform 35 days ago and later moved outside Congress.

The group on hunger strike now numbers 16.

Lipa Archbishop Ramon Arguelles yesterday also began a hunger strike in his Batangas diocese in support of the group.

CARP is set to expire on Dec. 31, 2008, along with the budget for land acquisition and distribution. The House has decided to devote its last three session days this year, which end Wednesday, to debating and voting on the CARP extension bill.

Pabillo, along with Manila Archbishop Gaudencio Cardinal Rosales, Catholic Bishops' Conference of the Philippines (CBCP) president Angel Lagdameo and Cebu Archbishop Ricardo Cardinal Vidal, also sent a joint letter to Speaker Prospero Nograles and Senate President Juan Ponce Enrile to plead for CARP's extension.

BISHOPS A8

WEATHER FORECAST

Second FRONT PAGE



MEGALOTTO 6/45

P120,900,879.00

GMA bags $1B in investments

San Miguel Corp. signs deal with Qatari telecommunications firm

PRESIDENT MACAPAGAL-ARROYO RETURNS home today from a three-day official visit to Qatar bringing $1 billion in new investments, according to a Malacañang statement.

Awash in cash

60-40 broadband deal



Biggest so far

Withheld US funds spur gov't to act vs corruption

Decreasing trends

Need everyone's help

'Ulysses' turns into typhoon

Bishops join farmers' hunger strike

[illegible]



FARMERS on their 13th day of hunger strike move from the Quezon Memorial Circle to the House of Representatives to press for the immediate passage of a law extending the Comprehensive Agrarian Reform Program on Monday.

Arroyo hacienda

[illegible]

Still to be distributed

[illegible]

Bogus program

[illegible]

Rich, poor Americans ...

[illegible]

Housebeats, Harleys

[illegible]

Never loaned so much

[illegible]

Lender of last resort

[illegible]

Defaults rising

[illegible]

Reuters

‘Aggressive marketing’ of OFWs by gov’t hit

By Jerome Aning

[illegible]

Limited rights

[illegible]

Boat capsizes off Cagayan; 23 die, 26 missing

December maritime disasters

DEC. 20, 1987: The MV Doña Paz collided with the oil tanker MT Vector ... [illegible]

Dec. 2, 1994: The MV Cebu City collided with ... [illegible]

Dec. 31, 1999 ... [illegible]

Dec. 28, 2001 ... [illegible]

Inquirer Research

[illegible]

The Philippine Coast Guard said ... [illegible]

"They panicked and grabbed anything ..." [illegible]



Criminal charges

[illegible]

Fatalities

[illegible]

Northeast monsoon

[illegible]

With a report from AP

THE DAILY GOSPEL

[illegible]



LANDMARK
DEALS on WHEELS
RAFFLE PROMO
4
MITSUBISHI MOTORS
MITSUBISHI OUTLANDER
4
MITSUBISHI MOTORS
MITSUBISHI LANCER
PLUS THOUSANDS OF GIFT CERTIFICATES TO BE GIVEN AWAY
80 WINNERS
P 20,000.00
WORTH OF GIFT CERTIFICATES EACH
200 WINNERS
P 8,000.00
WORTH OF GIFT CERTIFICATES EACH
THE LANDMARK
MAKATI TRINOMA
Every P500 purchase from Oct. 17, 2008 - April 21, 2009 gives you the chance to win. Get additional raffle coupons for every purchase of any two or more of the participating products. See poster mechanics for details.

Qatar among nations asked to broker peace

By Michael Lim Ubac

Peace talks resume

New paradigm

Expand the IMT

Cayetano, Pimentel




BDO
Branch Banking
This holiday season, we're ready to serve you at more branches nationwide.
Because keeping your family's Christmas traditions is more important than money.
See or call your branch for detailed holiday schedules from December 26-31, 2008.
We find ways

Manny's Las Vegas-style birthday bash



Tañamor bags gold in Moscow World Cup

7 share ₱180-M SuperLotto jackpot

Church bats for livelier dawn Masses

Survey: Satisfaction with GMA at lowest ever

[illegible]

Senate passes P1.4-T budget

[illegible]

World crisis threatens Asean economic bloc

[illegible]

PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER
OPINION

Expletives

PINAY ESDIE! ...PATAYIN ANG GLORIA-FOREVER Cha-cha na 'to! (Let's kill this Gloria-forever Charter change!)" opposition Sen. Mar Roxas shouted at last Friday's rally in Makati to denounce moves by Malacañang allies to revise the Constitution through a constituent assembly.

EDITORIAL

The use of an expletive by the normally decorous Roxas drew mixed reactions. Press Secretary Jesus Dureza said, "We are saddened that he stooped so low in his tirade. We don't think his crass language will help in his desperate drive to catch up with the popularity ratings of other leading 'presidentiables'." The public's reaction was largely negative. But others, like Naga City Vice Mayor Gabriel Bordado, said Roxas might have been exasperated over the Arroyo administration's repeated attempts to push through with Charter change.

Roxas could have uttered something elegant, in the manner of Cicero's measured cadences: "Quo usque tandem abutere, Catilina, patientia nostra? (When, O Catiline, do you mean to cease abusing our patience?)" Or he could have cursed with more finesse, and used some bombast and literary flourish, like the 16th century philosopher Giordano Bruno who excoriated some politicians thus: "Cut-purses, sides of cheats, ...

[illegible]

So, was Roxas justified in using the "P" word in his speech at Friday's rally? Maybe. We think that the Filipino people are justified in cursing this administration which is perceived to be the most corrupt in the country's history, which has tolerated the killing of hundreds of activists and journalists, which is violating the human rights of the people, which is profligate with the people's money, which has no morals, no decency and shame, which is bent on perpetuating itself in power. But if we want gentility in the face of so much evil, let us return to the oldtime... "Sana na! Sobra na!"



Mujahideen in short pants

VIEWPOINT
Juan L. Mercado

"THERE'S AN IMMEASURABLE DISTANCE between late and too late," Og Mandino wrote. The Moro Islamic Liberation Front's decision to stop drafting child soldiers to 18 years late, is a welcome turnabout...

[illegible]

Storms

THERE'S THE RUB
Conrado de Quiros

JUST A COUPLE OF REMINDERS.

[illegible]

The way ahead on climate change

WORLD VIEW

Gro Harlem Brundtland, Ricardo Lagos, Festus Mogae and Srgjan Kerim

Same time, same cause

COMMENTARY

The Christian in politics

NEWSSTAND



John Nery

Four puppies

YOUNG BLOOD

Ana Pauleine Cruz

IN THE NEWS



Sen. Manuel "Mar" Roxas II

Needed: values of old

LETTERS

Drinking water in Camarines Norte

What, sell the Philippines?

Untouchable Korean firm?



PROTESTS against Charter change: Against "empresses for life"

Condemned to repeat history: Empress for life?

Bishops' human rights charges vs gov't misplaced

Claiming Obama

COMMENTARY

Belinda A. Aquino

Arabs hail shoe attacker as hero

'A farewell kiss, you dog'



IN THE KNOW

Great insult

BUSH NOTEBOOK

Baghdad trip like something from a spy thriller

Major banks lose billions to 'mad' trader

Casino site has threatened species

By Robert Gonzaga
Inquirer Central Luzon

SUBIC BAY FREEPORT—THREATENED SPECIES included in the "red list" of Philippine flora and several wildlife species thrive on the site where a $120-million casino and hotel project would be built, according to documents obtained by the Inquirer.





TREE OF LIGHTS!
A giant Christmas tree adorns a shopping mall in Davao City as people wait for the grandest holiday of the year.

Vote buying mars Tacloban plebiscite

By Joey A. Gabieta
Inquirer Visayas

TACLOBAN CITY—ALLEGATIONS of vote buying have marred the upcoming Dec. 18 plebiscite on a bid to reclassify Tacloban into a highly urbanized city.

On Sunday, several men and women, who claimed to be affiliated with both the "yes" and "no" proponents, were reportedly going house-to-house in their respective villages making a "list."

Today is the last day of the 22-day campaign for the plebiscite.

"Theresa," who asked not to be identified by her real name, admitted that she has been listing voters in their village in the city's downtown area.

"Anyone who will vote for a no will receive money," she said.

A barangay councilor of the same village, which has over 800 registered voters, disclosed that she was also doing the same to ensure that the "yes" vote would win, at least in their village.

But despite this admission, the proponents of the "yes" and the "no" votes denied that they would resort to vote buying.

"We will not engage in that. This is not your regular political exercise wherein there are candidates. This plebiscite involves the future of this city and nobody else," according to Dee Calvo, spokesperson of City Mayor Alfred Romualdez.

City Election Officer Susan Cullamar warned those who resort to vote buying that they would be penalized.

"Vote buying is an election offense and we do not tolerate it," Cullamar said.

Romualdez favored the conversion of Tacloban into a highly urbanized city on the ground that its reclassification would open the city to more than 217,000 people to more investors.

But Tacloban City Vice Mayor Arvin Antoni and Leyte Vice Gov. Mimietta Bagulaya, who was once the city's vice mayor, have opposed the proposal claiming that Tacloban, a component city of Leyte for 50 years now, is not ready to become an HUC.

"The city government should first solve its problems on drainage and improve its services to its people rather than focus on becoming an HUC," Bagulaya said.

President Macapagal-Arroyo issued Presidential Proclamation No. 1637 dated Dec. 4, which declared Tacloban as a highly urbanized city. However, the city's voters have to ratify the proposal in a plebiscite for it to take effect.

Under the law, a city can be reclassified as highly urbanized if it has a population of over 200,000 and an annual income of P100 million.

Tacloban has more than 217,000 residents and an annual income of P300 million.

NEWSBRIEFS

■ DAVAO CITY

Trainings for returning OFWs

AT LEAST 10 workers from Southern Mindanao, who were retrenched by their companies in Taiwan, will get assistance from the government so they can be redeployed to other countries.

Ron Lionel Barbalanor, director of the Overseas Workers Welfare Administration in the region, said these workers would be trained so they could find jobs in emerging markets.

"We will be providing them fishnet and welding trainings," Barbalanor said, adding that prospects are great for those who have acquired these skills.

Jalilo dela Torre, director of the Department of Labor and Employment in Southern Mindanao, said they were also preparing for the expected "massive return of OFWs" by strengthening and creating new programs.

He also said they were preparing some lay-offs in the region's banana industry due to export slowdown but they were more concerned about the expected retrenchment of some 130,000 workers coming from various parts of the country.

Nico Alconaba, Inquirer Mindanao

■ TAGUM CITY

Rebel camp found

GOVERNMENT troops discovered yet another encampment of the New People's Army (NPA) in a hinterland village in Compostela Valley, the sixth of such facility captured in the province since military operation against the rebels started in November.

Maj. Randolph Cabangbang, spokesperson of the military's Eastern Mindanao Command based in Davao City, said the camp in Barangay Andap in New Bataan town was discovered on Monday by soldiers from the Army's 66th Infantry Battalion while they were conducting combat operation in the vicinity of Sitio Taplayan on Monday morning.

He said soldiers recovered tools for making improvised explosive devices and landmines, a television set and two generator sets.

Frinston Lim, Inquirer Mindanao

■ DIGOS CITY

Teacher kills self

A 54-YEAR OLD physical education teacher at the Davao del Sur National High School here, who was recently accused of sexual harassment by two of his students, committed suicide by shooting himself past 8 a.m. Thursday, police said Friday.

Chief Insp. Anthony Padua, city police director, said Virgilio Lucero, a resident of Bonifacio Ave. here, shot himself with a .45 caliber pistol on the chest and died.

He said police found out that the suicide had been charged with acts of lasciviousness by two of his students before the city prosecutor's office in August this year.

Orlando A. Dinoy, Inquirer Mindanao

■ MARINDUQUE

Domestic flights resume

AFTER almost four years since domestic flights ceased plying the Manila-Marinduque-Manila route, businessmen and local residents are ecstatic with the resumption of domestic flights to this province.

A China-made 56-seater MA-60 Zest Air airplane made its initial and prolog flight last Nov. 11, carrying 6 passengers going to Marinduque and lifting off with 4 passengers bound for Manila.

Zest Air had initially scheduled the flights every Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday.

The plane departs from Manila at 8:45 a.m. and leaves Marinduque at 10 a.m.

Gerald Glen F. Gonzales, Inquirer Southern Luzon

Bikers for environment

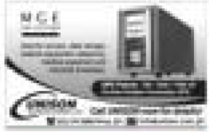
200 enthusiasts gathered on Nov. 22 for the first Extreme Marinduque Cross Country Mountain Bike Race at an abandoned mine site in Mogpog town to advocate for responsible mining and to endorse Marinduque as a haven for ecological and sports tourism.

Forty bikers, including a team from Lucban, Quezon led by Leo Oracion, the first Filipino to reach the summit of Mt. Everest, joined the event held at the former Ino-Capayang mine site of the Consolidated Mines Inc., which used to operate a copper mine here during the 1960s and '70s but was forced to shut down in 1978 because of high operating costs.

Gerald Glen F. Gonzales, Inquirer Southern Luzon


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Aplus METRO
Editor: Abelardo S. Ulanday



4-month search for abducted girl ends in a creek

Killer points to location after arrest

By Tarra V. Quismundo

AN EIGHT-YEAR-OLD GIRL WHO DISAPPEARED in Marikina City more than four months ago was finally found by the police when the man who took her told the police where her body was.





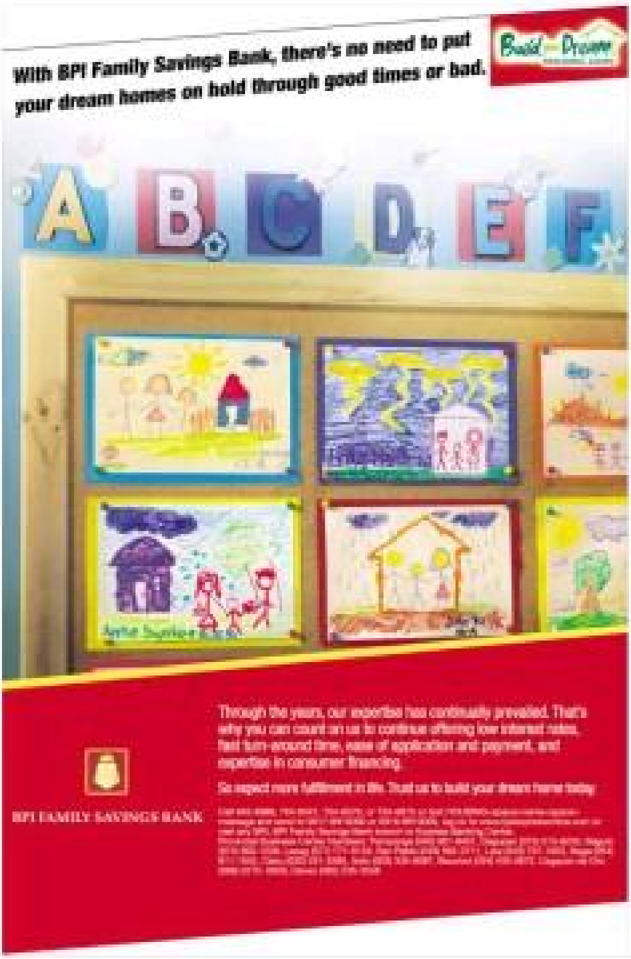
GO GRAB NOW With Christmas Day only a few days away, there's still time to buy holiday decor items like these shown on Bagatsing Street in Sampaloc, Manila. It's one place Metro Manila residents go to when they want quality decorations and gifts.

Police set to file raps vs UP rob suspects

By Nancy C. Carvajal

She prayed, she preyed

By Jeannette I. Andrade



Bleak Christmas for 372 families in Makati and QC



Disgruntled employee holds Valenzuela city hall administrator hostage; is held

Demanded meeting

Kept at bay

No grenade



DANCE! SURE SHE CAN!

Parañaque health execs check safety of meat sold at public markets

MetroBriefs

Korean man kills self

Guard found dead

More cops in churches

That guy Frank Chavez

On Target



Did you know

White House: No immediate deal on auto loans

Japan business sentiment in sharpest dip since 1970s; China industrial output growth at lowest in 9 years



Big crowds in churches as bad times hit US

British doctors prefer Merck vaccine for cervical cancer

Illinois governor not resigning



BLAGOJEVICH

Scientists urge caution in ocean-CO_2 capture

The WORLD

Thailand chooses new PM

Elected opposition leader faces immediate protests

BANGKOK, THAILAND—LAWMAKERS CHOSE AN OPposition leader as Thailand's prime minister on Monday in a bid to end months of political chaos, as supporters of the previous government unsuccessfully tried to halt the result by blockading Parliament.

[illegible]



OXFORD-educated Abhisit Vejjajiva

[illegible]

Somalia president fires premier

NAIROBI, KENYA—THE PRESIDENT OF Somalia announced on Sunday that he was unilaterally firing the prime minister, throwing Somalia's beleaguered government, and the nation itself, into further disarray.

[illegible]



INDIAN Marine Commandos board a suspected pirate ship as its surrendering crew (left) hold their hands above their heads in the Gulf of Aden on Dec. 13.

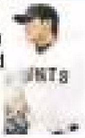
The year Somali pirates challenged the world

By Mustafa Haji Abdinur

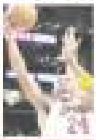
MOGADISHU—OVER THE PAST year, Somali pirates have hijacked [illegible]

Hamas, showing split, hints it may extend Israel truce

GAZA CITY, GAZA STRIP—HAMAS leaders in Gaza on Sunday left open the possibility of renewing a [illegible]



SPORTS



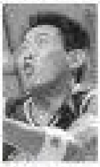


Roach: M'weather much tougher foe

WPBL title series gets going today



Chan takes Player of the Week honors



Roach: M'weather much tougher foe



Veteran Ramos tops Bataoil-Garcia Cup

Chiefs post 7th straight NCRAA win

Give Mega-Manny to the world this Christmas

Bare Eye



SPORTSWATCH



Toughest, most glamorous NCA derby unfolds at Ynares



Garcia, Tiu smash drag racing marks

Time staying still and moving fast

ONE GAME AT A TIME



3-way scramble for title

Laguna, GenSan, Manila bets dispute bulk of POF golds



Giants' Fil-Am hurler visits field of dreams





Takayama emerges as RP's new billiards idol



SPORTS

NBA STANDINGS

EASTERN CONFERENCE				
Atlantic	W	L	Pct	GB
Boston	22	2	.917	—
New Jersey	11	11	.500	10
New York	11	12	.478	10 1/2
Toronto	10	13	.435	11 1/2
Philadelphia	10	14	.417	12
Southeast	W	L	Pct	GB
Orlando	19	5	.792	—
Atlanta	14	9	.609	4 1/2
Miami	12	11	.522	6 1/2
Charlotte	7	17	.292	11
Washington	4	17	.190	13 1/2
Central	W	L	Pct	GB
Cleveland	20	4	.833	—
Detroit	13	9	.591	6
Chicago	11	12	.478	8 1/2
Milwaukee	10	15	.400	10 1/2
Indiana	7	16	.304	12 1/2
WESTERN CONFERENCE				
Southwest	W	L	Pct	GB
San Antonio	15	7	.682	—
New Orleans	13	7	.650	1/2
Houston	15	9	.625	1
Dallas	13	9	.591	1 1/2
Memphis	9	15	.375	6 1/2
Northwest	W	L	Pct	GB
Denver	16	7	.696	—
Portland	15	10	.600	2
Utah	15	10	.600	2
Minnesota	4	19	.174	12
Oklahoma City	2	23	.080	15
Pacific	W	L	Pct	GB
L.A. Lakers	20	3	.870	—
Phoenix	14	10	.583	6 1/2
Golden State	7	17	.292	13 1/2
L.A. Clippers	6	17	.261	14
Sacramento	6	18	.250	14 1/2

Kobe shines as hot Lakers trip T'wolves



LOS ANGELES—Lakers guard Kobe Bryant (left) puts up a shot against Minnesota forward Al Jefferson while Timberwolves guard Randy Foye (bottom) looks on. AP

LOS ANGELES—KOBE BRYANT had 28 points and five assists as the Los Angeles Lakers pulled away in the fourth quarter to beat the struggling Minnesota Timberwolves, 98-86, on Sunday. [illegible]

Big role

[illegible]

AP, Reuters

NFL

Steelers edge Ravens, bag AFC North crown



RUNNING back Tashard Choice (left) of the Dallas Cowboys celebrates his touchdown with (from left) teammates Leonard Davis and Andre Gurode. AP

BALTIMORE—SANTONIO HOLMES caught a four-yard touchdown pass from Ben Roethlisberger with 43 seconds left as the Pittsburgh Steelers clinched their second consecutive American Football Conference North crown by beating the Baltimore Ravens, 13-9, Sunday. [illegible]

Cowboys 20, Giants 8

[illegible]

Colts 31, Lions 21

[illegible]

Texans 13, Titans 12

[illegible]

Panthers 30, Broncos 10

[illegible]

Vikings 35, Cardinals 14

[illegible]

AP

Chelsea salvages draw vs West Ham

LONDON—NICOLAS ANELKA SCORED HIS 14th goal of the season on Sunday to spare Chelsea from an embarrassing home defeat to West Ham and earn a 1-1 draw. [illegible]

Vulnerable

[illegible]

AP

Sevilla nips Villarreal, moves to 3rd place in Spanish league



[illegible]

MADRID, SPAIN—RENATO'S GOAL ON THE stroke of halftime proved decisive as Sevilla beat Villarreal, 1-0, on Sunday to move into third place in the Spanish league. [illegible]

AP

IN THIS ISSUE

Editor Raul D. Marcelo • Assistant Editor Connie E. Nariana

BUSINESS



10-month OFW inflows up 15.5% to $14B

Amid crisis, Ayala chief bullish on RP prospects

By Daxim L. Lucas



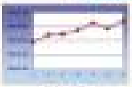
ZOBEL DE AYALA

Economic slowdown trims growth in October to 3.3%

By Doris C. Dumlao

MONEY SENT HOME BY OVERSEAS FILIPINOS GREW BY A modest 3.3 percent in October year-on-year, the slowest pace of expansion seen in 18 months, as the country started to feel the pinch of a slowing global economy.

CURRENCIES



PESO-DOLLAR RATE

STOCK MARKET

Stocks up 1%



PSE COMPOSITE INDEX

Galoc revenues below target

By Abigail L. Ho

Bank lending rose 21.9% in Oct.

Money supply up by 13.1 %



Goings-on

Business as usual

New MSMED execom chair

Prices of fertilizers down by as much as 44%

GMA Network seen increasing ad rates next year

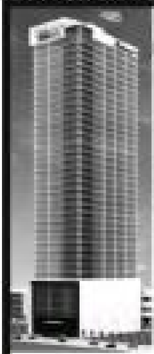
TVIRD gets additional bridge financing

Brimming with confidence, SM expands retail group

Mall developer takes on Pagcor amusement complex in Manila



Landbank steps up agri tech transfer, lending



Kia Carens Voted Best People Mover in Drive Car of the Year Awards.





PNB and Xoom Corp. launch Online Remittance Service. The Philippine National Bank (PNB) recently partnered with Xoom Corporation to make online remittance available to OFWs. With this tie-up, PNB's OFW clients can easily do their remittance within the comforts of their home or office by logging on to Xoom's website. Beneficiaries can obtain their remittance at Xoom's pick-up locations within hours and without opening a bank account or connecting to the Internet. Signing the Memorandum of Agreement are, seated from left, PNB Global Marketing Group Head FVP Patricia N. Tan, PNB President and CEO Omar Byron T. Mier, Xoom President and CEO John Kunze, and Xoom Regional VP for Asia-Pacific Gene Gutierrez. Also present are, standing from left: PNB Treasury Sector Head FSVP Ramon L. Lim, PNB Global Technology Sector Head EVP Cynthia V. Javier and PNB Global Marketing Group Manager Frances Daflon.

San Miguel signs deal with Qatar Telecom

Wireless broadband partnership

Big 3 out on bail

Mr. Bearbull

Ron Nathan

Splash to open marketing firm in Indonesia

10-month . . .

From page B1

Amid crisis . . .

From page B1

Galoc revenues . . .

From page B1

Business

EDC streamlines system to boost RP exporters

With P1-B fund, export council to engage in aggressive marketing abroad

By Ronnel W. Domingo

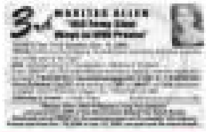


2 foreign airlines seek to pass on fuel costs despite drop in oil prices

RP plays it safe, to keep '09 deficit at 1.2% of GDP

By Michelle V. Remo

LIFESTYLE Wellness



Oprah Winfrey: I now weigh 200 pounds

World icon talks about her lost cause



THE JANUARY issue of "O"

AN EMBARRASSED Oprah Winfrey says she's "fallen off the wagon" of healthy living and has ballooned to 200 lbs.

Give Your Looks an Upgrade



Facial Care Centre FOR MEN offers 5 Ways to rid your skin of its flaws

1 Acne scars and Blemishes



Diamond Peel

2 Pimple breakouts and Back Acne

3 Fine lines and Wrinkles

4 Loose, sagging skin

5 Skin Fatigue



Manage your weight your way







See Christmas in a better light

How to let nature heal you



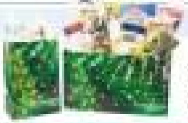
What exercise really does to your heart

Breast diagnostic center in Manila

[illegible]

Christmas gift of healthy treats

[illegible]



HEALTHY Options offers products in green boxes or bags.

Oprah Winfrey: I now weigh 200 …

[illegible]

New life

[illegible]



Eating both carbo and protein can cause weight gain

INSIDE OUT



Cory Quirino

[illegible]

Honey mask

[illegible]

Cool aid loss

[illegible]

Healthy salad dressing

[illegible]

Omega butter

[illegible]



Did Atlantis and Lemuria really exist?

INNER AWARENESS



Jaime T. Licauco

[illegible]

Strong advocate

[illegible]

LIFESTYLE Wellness

Holiday fitness guide to mall walking

We measured the steps in each mall—and the calories



GLORIETTA mall – 4,000 steps

By Mitch Felipe
Contributor

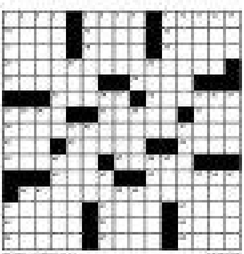
DO A LOT OF MALL WALKING this holiday season.

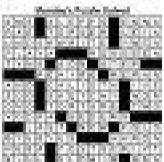
- It helps improve one's endurance and strength. Walking also tones your lower body and decreases body fat.
- Last-minute Christmas shopping burns calories. You can burn 150 to 200 calories just by walking 5,000 steps. It's better if you use a pedometer.
- It's more enjoyable if you do it with friends and family.
- It's cheap and easy, according to Dean Dimenis, author of "The Mall Walking

MALL D2



DAILY CROSSWORD





HOROSCOPE

CONCEPTIS SUDOKU

Conceptis Sudoku

		8		2	6	7		
9				7				8
					1		3	
	6	7				9		
4				3				7
		3				5	1	
	1		8					
8				5				9
		9	3	4		2		

Difficulty Level ★★

HOW TO PLAY SU DOKU



FESTIVAL Mall — 4,300 steps



MARKET! Market! — 4,200 to 4,500 steps



MALL of Asia — 10,000 steps

Holiday fitness guide to mall walking

From page D1

Tips for a stress-free and safe mall walking:

Makati

Taguig

Mandaluyong



MEGAMALL — 4,500 steps



SM NORTH Edsa and the Block — 7,000 steps

South area

1) Festival Mall, Alabang — 4,300 steps
2) Mall of Asia — 10,000 steps
3) Robinsons Manila — 7,500 steps

North area



TRINOMA — 7,500 steps

STYLE COUNTDOWN TO CHRISTMAS

Louie's doves

WE CAME UPON A UNIQUE YET VERY simple Christmas tree in the Makati pad of society icon Louie Cruz. There amid the Manansalas of various sizes—the Cruzes have had a significant Manansala collection since the National Artist Vicente Manansala was a close friend of Ambassador JV Cruz and his wife Lucy; Manansala also stayed with the Cruzes in London and Germany—stood a classic Christmas tree festooned all over with white doves.

The little white feathery doves seem almost life-like as they sit on every tip and branch of the tall tree.

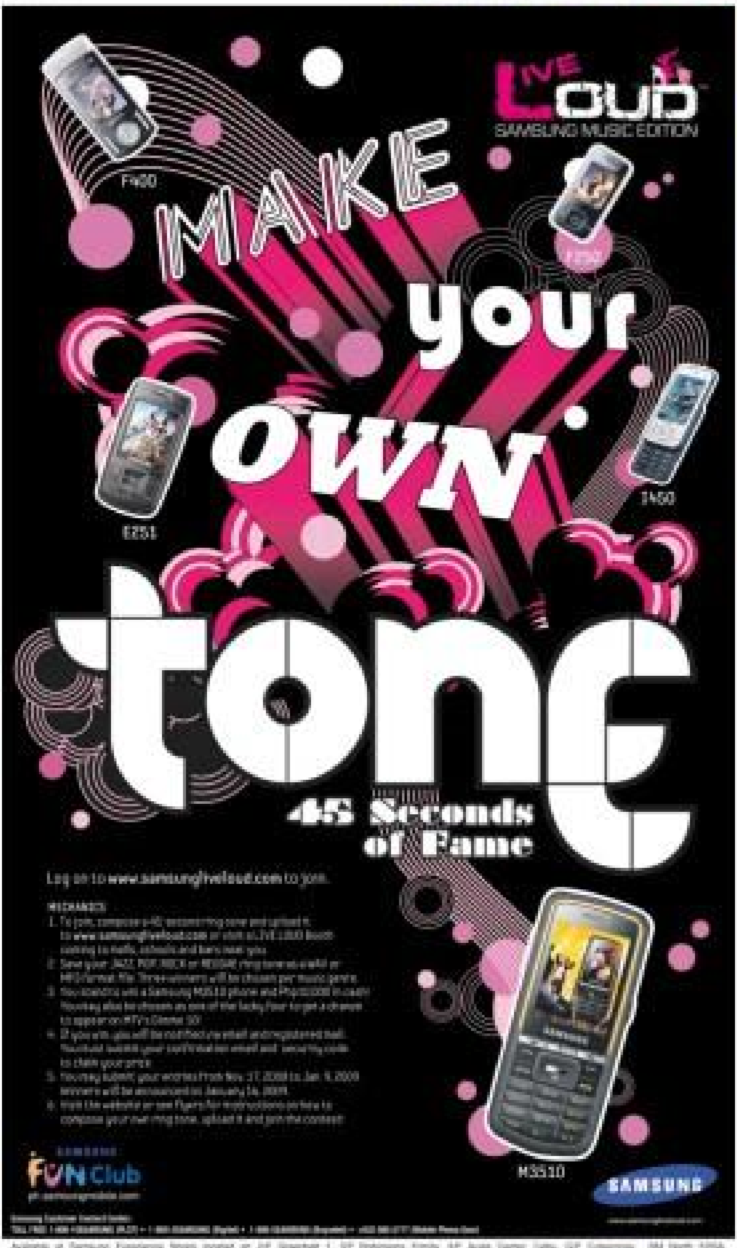
"Doves remind me of the peace and Christmases I lived in Germany, so I like using them for Christmas," said Cruz.

He bought hundreds of these doves in HK 14 years ago to use in the wedding décor of a young couple.

He's since reused them for Christmas. And the couple? They're still married.



SIMPLE YET POIGNANT: Hundreds of white doves on a light perch on Louie Cruz's Christmas tree





GIFTED: There's no denying—Louie Cruz lives in a Xmas door wrapping mode.



CLASSIC: Xmas tree amid Manansala works in Cruz's living room.

Goings On

Red Cross Tree of Life launched

[illegible]

Starland activities

[illegible]

Most innovative product

[illegible]

ENTERTAINMENT



Why Ara Mina missed the Pacquiao-De La Hoya match



HELEN Gamboa and Claudine Barretto at the launch of the new batch of stars at the Walk of Fame in Eastwood

DOLLY WOOD



Dolly Anne Carvajal

Generous Pacman

Creative differences

Stars' inspiration



CINEMA ACCESS: 635-0555

MOVIEWORLD

ROBINSONS MOVIEWORLD CINEMA MOVIE GUIDE

www.robinsonsmovieworld.com

GALLERIA

1 THE DAY THE EARTH STOOD STILL
2 TWILIGHT
3 indieSine: UPCAT / YANGGAW / DOSE
4 THE DAY THE EARTH STOOD STILL
5 QUARANTINE
6 THE DAY THE EARTH STOOD STILL
7 PRIDE AND GLORY / FOUR CHRISTMASES
8 LOVE BIRDS
9 100
10 BOLT / JAMES BOND: QUANTUM of SOLAC

ERMITA

1 BOLT
2 FOUR CHRISTMASES
3 THE DAY THE EARTH STOOD STILL
4 THE DAY THE EARTH STOOD STILL
5 QUARANTINE
6 TWILIGHT
7 PRIDE AND GLORY
8 100
9 LOVEBIRDS

METRO EAST

1 BOLT
2 THE DAY THE EARTH STOOD STILL
3 TWILIGHT
4 FOUR CHRISTMASES
5 QUARANTINE
6 THE DAY THE EARTH STOOD STILL
7 PRIDE AND GLORY
8 SCAREGIVERS

NOVALICHES

1 THE DAY THE EARTH STOOD STILL
2 QUARANTINE
3 TWILIGHT

PIONEER

1 THE DAY THE EARTH STOOD STILL
2 TWILIGHT
3 FOUR CHRISTMASES
4 PRIDE AND GLORY

MOVIEWORLD CAN BE YOUR CINEMA

We can be your venue for advance screenings, private film viewings, corporate and school events and other organizational functions.

STA. ROSA

1 THE DAY THE EARTH STOOD STILL
2 LIVING HELL
3 SCAREGIVERS
4 TWILIGHT

LIPA

1 THE DAY THE EARTH STOOD STILL
2 QUARANTINE
3 TWILIGHT
4 BURIED ALIVE

DASMARIÑAS

1 MONSTER SLAYER
2 SCAREGIVERS
3 TWILIGHT
4 THE DAY THE EARTH STOOD STILL

IMUS

1 SEX DRIVE
2 THE DAY THE EARTH STOOD STILL
3 TWILIGHT
4 SCAREGIVERS

ANGELES

1 THE DAY THE EARTH STOOD STILL
2 MAKE IT HAPPEN
3 MONSTER SLAYER
4 TWILIGHT

STARMILLS

1 MONSTER SLAYER
2 ONE TRUE LOVE
3 QUARANTINE
4 THE DAY THE EARTH STOOD STILL
5 TWILIGHT
6 SCAREGIVERS

BACOLOD

1 THE DAY THE EARTH STOOD STILL
2 BURN AFTER READING
3 THE DAY THE EARTH STOOD STILL
4 TWILIGHT
5 SEX DRIVE
6 QUARANTINE

ILOILO

1 THE DAY THE EARTH STOOD STILL
2 TWILIGHT
3 THE DAY THE EARTH STOOD STILL
4 MONSTER SLAYER
5 STRANGERS
6 TROPIC THUNDER

ITO ANG BAGONG SINENG PINOY!

NOW on its SECOND WEEK!!

UPCAT directed by Roman Olivarez

YANGGAW directed by Richard Somes

DOSE written and directed by Senedy H. Que

December 10-16 IndieSine Theatre 8 Robinson's Galleria Metromanila

SM CINEMA movietime



METRO MANILA

RESERVED SEATS NOW AVAILABLE

IMAX: THE DAY THE EARTH STOOD STILL; MADAGASCAR 2: ESCAPE TO AFRICA; SEA MONSTER

THE PODIUM: TWILIGHT; THE DAY THE EARTH STOOD STILL; LATE SCREENINGS

CINEMA 1: THE DAY THE EARTH STOOD STILL

LUZON

VISAYAS - MINDANAO

WATCH AT THE NEWLY-OPENED SM CINEMA BALIWAG!

www.smcinema.com

Why Ara Mina missed . . .

Digital movie fest

WISH LIST

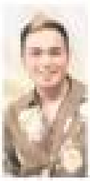


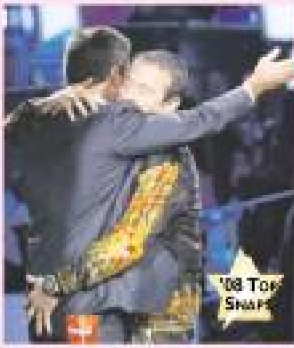
JOEY DE LEON

"I wish for more projects for everybody in the industry. [illegible] ... Michael Cruz

KEEMPEE DE LEON

"I hope the state of the movie industry improves [illegible] ... Michael Cruz









'08 TOP SNAPS

Funnymen rule

ABOVE: Reuters News Pictures Service's choices for Images of the Year are (from L): Robin Williams hugging Simon Cowell at the "Idol Gives Back" show in April; Adam Wilson and Megan Fox at the MTV Movie Awards in June; and director Quentin Tarantino fooling it up for cameras [illegible] at the Cannes Film Festival in May.

'Four Christmases' skids when it should soar

VIEWFINDER



Nestor U. Torre

A LITTLE OVER A WEEK BEFORE CHRISTmas, a new Yuletide film has rocketed to the top of the box-office grosses, proving that movies about "the season" are still potent cinematic attractions — provided that they're well-timed and marketed.

Talk about marketing, "Four Christmases" topbills the new dollar tandem of Reese Witherspoon and Vince Vaughn. [illegible]

[illegible]

Weak storytelling

So far, so good. [illegible]

[illegible]

New animated features

"Up" [illegible]

"Beverly Hills Chihuahua" [illegible]

"Dayo." This Filipino feature is the only animated film in this month's Metro Manila Film Festival. [illegible]

[illegible]

